

The Southeast News

OF, BY AND FOR CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

VOLUME VIII, NUMBER 5

MARCH 1960

Rev. Truman B. Douglass 1960 Convention Speaker

Rev. Dr. Truman B. Douglass, executive vice-president of the Board of Home Missions of the Congregational Christian Churches, will be the principal speaker at the annual meeting of the Southeast Convention, April 2-3.

The Board which he heads has financial assets in excess of \$40,000,000. It is responsible for church extension and evangelism; the financing and building of local churches; the development of effective programs for city, suburban, town and country churches; denominational work in race relations; higher education, and ministerial relief. The Board is in charge of the denominational publishing house, the Pilgrim Press. It also creates and publishes Sunday School curricula used by Congregational Christian Churches and church schools of several other denominations.

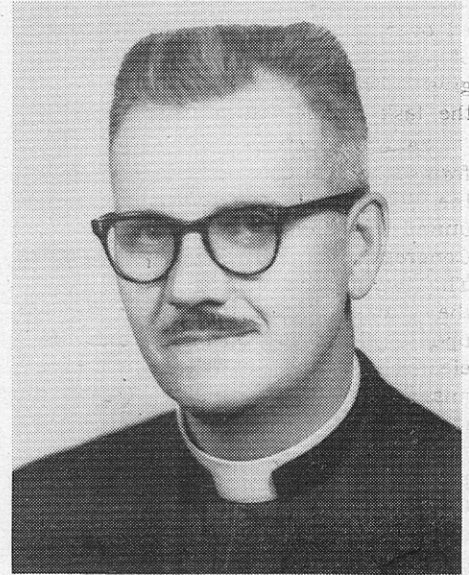
Dr. Douglass is a member of the executive council of the United Church of Christ. He was one of the originators of the plan for union between the General Council of the Congregational Christian Churches and the Evangelical and Reformed Church, and played a major role in its development and consummation.

Widely known as an author and lecturer, Dr. Douglass has written three books: *Why Go to Church?*, published in 1957; *Preaching and the New Reformation*, 1956, and *Mission to America*, 1951. He delivered the Lyman Beecher Lectures at Yale University Divinity School in June, 1951.

Born in Grinnell, Iowa, in 1901, Dr. Douglass was graduated from Pomona (California) College in 1923. He did graduate work at Union Theological Seminary and Columbia University, from which he received an M. A. degree in 1927. Five colleges have awarded him honorary doctor's degrees.



REV. TRUMAN B. DOUGLASS



REV. GUY L. COLBERT

Eighth Annual Southeast Convention April 2-3, 1960, Andalusia, Alabama

The Eighth Annual Sessions of the Southeast Convention of Congregational Christian Churches will be held on April 2-3 at the Congregational Christian Church in Andalusia, Alabama.

The sessions will be called to order at 10:30 a. m. (C. S. T.) on Saturday and will conclude the early part of Sunday afternoon.

The Reverend Guy L. Colbert, Moderator, will preside over the meeting which will attract ministers and lay delegates from 117 churches in six states. Dr. Colbert is the Pastor-at-Large of the N. Alabama Association.

Dr. Truman B. Douglass, Executive Vice-President of the Board of Home Missions of the Congregational Christian Churches, will deliver the keynote address on Saturday afternoon and will preach the sermon at the Sunday morning service.

Rev. Frederick A. Meyer, Regional Director of the Christian Higher Education Fund of the Congregational

Christian Churches, will report on the campaign.

Both the Women's Fellowship and the Churchmen's Fellowship will hold banquets on Saturday night. All of the women delegates and visitors are invited to attend the women's banquet. The ministers and men delegates are invited to the Churchmen's Fellowship banquet.

The Convention is being entertained jointly by the Andalusia Church and Antioch Congregational Christian Church. Rev. J. Kermit Harris is pastor of the Andalusia Church and Rev. Warren A. Blankenhorn of the Antioch Church.

During the sessions reports will be given by the standing committees of the Convention, the fellowship organizations related to the convention and by the staff.

Dr. Walter A. Graham, president of the Southern Union College, will be on the program.

United Church Constitution Commission Report Completed

Final work on the proposed constitution for the United Church of Christ was completed here today by the 24-man commission responsible for drafting the document.

Rev. Dr. Garhard W. Grauer, Chicago, chairman of the church's Commission to Draft a Constitution, presided over the final session of the group of ministers and lay leaders which has given several thousand man-hours to the task during the last two years.

The United Church of Christ was formed here in Cleveland in 1957 when the Evangelical and Reformed Church united with the General Council of the Congregational Christian Churches. The two groups came together under the provisions of a previously agreed upon Basis of Union, and at that time elected the constitution-drafting commission — 12 members from each of the uniting communions.

The Commission's first draft was presented last summer to the United Church's General Synod, meeting in Oberlin, Ohio. After preliminary discussion of the document the Synod voted to refer the proposed constitution to local churches in order to involve the whole of the uniting communions in the constitution-making process. The adjourned session of the 1959 General Synod will re-convene in July, 1960, in Cleveland to take formal action on the revised document.

Dr. Grauer said that many hundreds of comments and suggestions had come to the Commission from local churches of the two uniting denominations. While the majority of the communications expressed approval of the general structure outlined in the original draft, the Commission considered carefully every suggestion for revision, Dr. Grauer said. In addition, the Commission held a number of hearings to elicit suggestions from various denominational leaders.

The United Church of Christ's co-presidents, Rev. Dr. Fred Hoskins, New York, and Rev. Dr. James E. Wagner, Philadelphia, in a joint commentary on the new revision of the governing instrument, expressed optimism regarding its eventual acceptance.

Their statement read in part: "In bringing together two streams of American Protestantism, each with its own distinguished history and cherish-

ed traditions, there are bound to be differences of opinion concerning the particular portions of the old tradition and practices to be carried into the new life of the United Church of Christ. Time after time, as such differences appeared, it was reconciliation rather than compromise that has put us in the position now to believe that we have succeeded in preparing a document which can be a widely acceptable instrument for use by the United Church of Christ as it moves forward to confront the grave issues of the contemporary world."

One of the major differences between the two uniting communions is in the status of local churches. In the Congregational Christian denomination each local church is autonomous, although it maintains voluntary cooperative relationships with state or regional bodies, called conferences, and with the nationally inclusive General Council.

In the Evangelical and Reformed Church, local churches have certain defined responsibilities to regional synods and to the national General Synod, but retain autonomy in other areas.

There are also differences between the two denominations in the autonomy and financing of denominational boards and agencies.

Commission members are confident that the new constitutional draft synthesized these differences.

The new constitution cannot come into effect for a minimum of 18 months, denominational leaders explained. In March it will be distributed to the 700 delegates to the General Synod for their study and consideration prior to the Synod sessions, in July.

If the General Synod, meeting in Cleveland July 6 to 9, takes a favorable action, the proposed constitution then goes once more to local churches and regional synods — this time for definitive action.

When two-thirds of the Evangelical and Reformed regional synods and two-thirds of the Congregational Christian churches voting shall have approved the document, a subsequent General Synod is scheduled for July, 1961, in Philadelphia.

Meanwhile, boards and agencies of the two uniting bodies continue to maintain their separate structures but

I Attended Pastor's School

Clyde C. Flannery

As I look at the catalog of the 1960 Western Pastor's School, many happy memories of the month I spent at LaForet last summer come tumbling through my mind. I must confess, though, that before I went, I had reservations as to just how much benefit it would be. I can say honestly, now, that nothing I have done in the last ten years has enriched my ministry more than those four short weeks at LaForet.

It is suggested that the church give its minister the time off to attend the school in addition to his regular vacation. And, if possible, to help toward his expenses. This is not a vacation. It is school and the minister deserves time off to be with his family in addition to this month. If members of a local church could only realize the tremendous benefit this would be in its own life, they would start now urging their minister to attend the 1960 school.

I know it is difficult to be away from one's family for a month. One of the young ministers at school last summer said the Sunday before he left a woman in the church came up to him with an envelope containing a nice sum of money. She explained that she knew how difficult it was going to be for him to be separated from his family for a whole month, and she wanted him to use the money to call home at least once each week. But the rewards a minister receives in renewed enthusiasm for his work, new insights, an opportunity to think deeply about the Christian faith, all make the sacrifice worth while.

Every phase of my work at Brookmeade — preaching, pastoral calling, Church School, youth work, and church administration — has improved, I'm sure, as a result of my going to Pastor's School last summer. The church that encourages its minister to attend is making an investment in its own future that will bring forth fruit a hundred fold.

Note — The Eastern Pastor's School will be held at Deering, N. H., July 13-August 3. The Western Pastor's School will be held at LaForet, Colorado, July 12 - August 10. For information write to the Southeast Convention Office, 673 Piedmont Ave., N. E., Atlanta 8, Ga.

are increasingly meshing their programs and activities.

The Unsung Hero Of Christendom

The average minister's wife is a most special person. She is the unsung hero of Christendom.

Few people who have not shared a parsonage guess the burden she carries, the work she does. In addition to fulfilling the normal role of wife and mother, she serves full-time at another job: "Assistant to the Minister." In terms of hours and energy expended, concern and dedication shared, she, too, is a minister of the church; only without title and without remuneration.

Usually she does not hold an office, believing it good policy to spread responsibility and develop lay leadership. For the most part she works behind scenes, ambassador without portfolio.

She is an expeditor; giving encouragement to faltering leaders; reviving sluggish workers; doing the job no one else will undertake, at least, "just filling in until . . .," carrying through the assignment someone accepted but failed to finish.

She is a patient listener and wise counselor; giving ear by the hour to laments and complaints, criticism and excuses, giving love and acceptance, understanding and hope.

She is a "churchman" in the finest sense; helping people see beyond their special interest that they may understand and serve the total concern of the church; promoting compassion, patience, forgiveness, good will, and every other quality of Christian love that the spirit of unity may grow and the works of faith increase.

She is a worker of miracles. What she can do with a budget reads like a page from the Gospels. No one should have difficulty with the miracle of the loaves and fishes who has seen what many a minister's wife can do with the portion of her husband's salary which comes her way. From that small basket comes not only bread and meat, but music lessons and books, college expenses for the children, even payments on her husband's school debts. And what shall we say of lesser but no less amazing miracles wrought in the transformation of dresses and hats, shirts and trousers!

She is minister to the Minister. This, above all else, is her unique ministry and greatest service for the church. Many men get along satisfactorily in

Sunday School Material Coming For Pre-School

The United Church of Christ is publishing new Sunday School material for use in our churches. The first NEW material to be ready is the nursery course which will be ready for use in the fall of 1960. This course is planned to help answer three questions which nursery age children have — Who am I? Who are you and how will we get along? What is the world like? The course is called "3's in the Christian Community."

To help us understand this new course and how to use it, many of us have a packet available. This packet is called "Christian Foundations in Pre-school Years." Our two delegates who, last summer, attended a conference about all this, are available to help us. Mrs. Kermit Harris, 610 Dunson Street, Andalusia, Ala., represented Alabama-West Florida; Mrs. Carl N. Sanford, 5865 Mitchell Road, N. W., Atlanta 5, Ga., represented Georgia, South Carolina, Kentucky, and Tennessee. Here are some suggestions for using this packet.

1. Be sure packet has been purchased as authorized by your association or conference at its fall meeting.
2. Christian Education Committee of Association or Conference familiarize yourselves with the packet (especially the discussion guide).
3. Contact Mrs. Harris or Mrs. Sanford for dates of workshop for teachers and parents of pre-schoolers to present the new S. S. material for that age.
4. Plan the workshop for one local church, for several adjoining churches, or for the Association churches (the more the better!).

Shirley N. Berry, Chairman
SEC Christian Ed. Committee

their calling without the aid and comfort of a good wife. Not a minister. Many vocations make few, if any, special demands upon a wife. Not the ministry. If the preacher has a "good minister's wife" he is of all men blessed by Heaven. If he does not, no matter his personal gifts and dedication, he had better leave the ministry.

This tribute to the noblest women of Christendom rises from the grateful heart of a man who, more than any, is indebted to a "good minister's wife."

For her and all other minister's wives across Christendom, I stand and sing The Doxology!

E. W. Palmer

Missionary Education Ideas In The Churches

Year-round programming in missionary and stewardship education is essential in order to cultivate in adults, youth, and children an understanding of and a desire to support and participate in Our Christian World Mission.

South Congregational Church, Concord, N. H., last year had a Sunday Workshop. Kindergarten children made spatter-print cards for shut-ins, Primaries made kits for Arab refugees, Juniors and Junior Highs made hygiene kits for refugees arriving in New York, toys and puzzles for local families and a Sioux mission, and selected books for American Board schools in Turkey and Greece. Parents participated with their children.

The adults and youth in Vergennes, Vermont, from 5:30 to 10 p. m. on a Sunday had a Progressive Evening on Missions. The young people visited ten different homes in the city. In each home there was a person representing another country, dressed in native costume, serving a refreshment suitable to that country, and telling about the American Board Mission and missionaries in his land. Questions from the young people often "stumped" the host or hostess.

An outstanding missionary education program in Kansas was the World's Fair given at Plymouth Congregational Church. Exhibits featuring the work of our denomination were interpreted by persons in charge, and an hour pageant and evening meal carried out the mission motif.

Our Bountiful, Utah, church each year conducts a School of World Friendship on Sunday mornings for six weeks in the fall.

Many churches are reporting the use of a visualized or dramatized presentation of Our Christian World Mission at the church meeting when goals for the year, or actual budgets, are voted. The Danielson, Conn., church prepared an audio visual presentation entitled "Now Thank We All" which included slides and filmstrips from the Missions Council, from the church's missionary, Dr. Robert McGowan of Angola, and from the church's own local program.

Do you want to share your program ideas through the pages of Mission Today? Send them to Theodore S. Horvath, Missions Council, 14 Beacon Street, Boston 8, Massachusetts.

THE SOUTHEAST NEWS

Entered as Second Class matter at the
Post Office of Atlanta, Georgia

Published monthly by and for
the churches of the

SOUTHEAST CONVENTION
of Congregational Christian Churches
(The United Church of Christ)
673 Piedmont Avenue N. E.

Atlanta, Ga. TRinity 4-2558
Single Subscription \$1.50 per year
Group Subscription \$1.25 per year

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Rev. Annie Campbell Photographer
Mrs. Jettie Logan Promotion

Printed by The Roanoke Leader,
Roanoke, Alabama

Vol. VIII March 1960 No. 5

Superintendent's Corner

The eighth annual meeting of the Southeast Convention is just a few weeks away. I hope that every church will be represented on this important occasion. It is good for us to meet together, to hear the reports of work accomplished, and to share in the visions of what can be done in the future.

One of the important by-products of such a gathering is the opportunity for members of different churches from the various areas of the convention to meet one another and to discuss what is taking place in their churches. The sharing of ideas can be most helpful.

Another important feature is the chance to review the progress the convention has made in its brief history. We do have a "PROGRAM OF PROGRESS." We are making progress. With all of us working together we can come to self-support within the next few years.

I look forward to seeing you at Andalusia!

* * *

SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

March 21: Meeting with Dr. and Mrs. Horton, Atlanta, Ga.
March 29: United Church Constitution Committee, LaGrange, Ga.
March 31: Executive Board, Georgia Council of Churches
April 2-3: Southeast Convention, Andalusia, Alabama
April 5: Huntsville, Alabama
April 9: North Georgia Association, Hampton, County Line
April 10: Daisy-Soddy, Tenn.

Christian Higher Education Declarations Of Intention

The following churches have sent signed "Declarations of Intention" forms to the Southeast Convention office indicating the goals they have accepted in the Christian Higher Education Fund Campaign. The churches marked by an * sent in their forms since the last listing was made in the February issue of THE SOUTHEAST NEWS.

(The office has heard of other churches that have accepted goals, but only the names of churches sending in signed declaration forms are published.)

Kentucky-Tennessee

Crossville	\$ 450
Daisy	450
Deer Lodge	150
Evarts	450
Glen Mary	150
Knoxville	3,000
Nashville	750
Pleasant Hill	900
Robbins	100
	\$6,400

Georgia

Atlanta, Center	50
Atlanta, Central	3,600
Barnesville, Fredonia	250
LaGrange, United	1,200
	\$5,100

Alabama

Birmingham, Pilgrim	1,000
*East Tallassee	400
*Roanoke, Lowell	300
Wadley	500
	\$2,200

Grand Total Pledged \$13,700.00

Moulton, Jones Chapel, of the North Alabama Association, has paid its suggested goal in full, but has not sent in the form.

Total Pledged to Date	\$13,700.00
Moulton, Jones Chapel, pd.	25.00
Ky.-Tenn. Summer Conf. pd.	31.27
Grand Total Pledged and Paid	\$13,756.27

These figures indicate we already are more than half-way to the Convention goal of \$25,000.00. How wonderful it would be if all of our churches could take action prior to the annual meeting

HAS YOUR CHURCH TAKEN ACTION?

WHY NOT DO SO NOW?

ACCEPT YOUR CHEF GOAL!!!

April 22-23: Southern Union College Board of Trustees

Spring Rallies Of The Women's Fellowships

(Names of Presidents Given)

March 19 — Central Georgia, LaGrange United Church, Mrs. Troy Wood, Day Meeting
March 20 — North Georgia, Center Church, Atlanta, Mrs. Grace Puckett, 4-8 p. m.
March 23 — South Georgia, Vanceville Church, Mrs. Loyd Vickers, Day Meeting
March 24 — Central Alabama, East Tallassee Church, Mrs. Willa Durden, 6-9 p. m.
March 26 — S. Alabama-N. W. Florida, Andalusia First Church, Mrs. J. R. Brackin, Day Meeting
March 27 — East Alabama, Lanett Church, Mrs. Harvetta Barr, 3-6 p. m.
March 28 — North Alabama, Birmingham, Pilgrim Church, Mrs. Locke White, Day Meeting
March 30 — Kentucky-Tennessee, Daisy, Mrs. Claude Pendergrass, Day Meeting

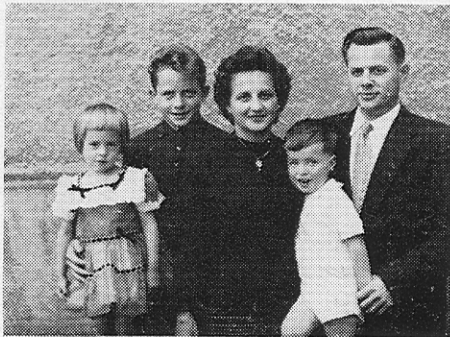
DATES TO REMEMBER

April 2-3 — Southeast Convention Annual Meeting, Andalusia, Alabama
May 3-5 — Spring Minister's Convocation, Camp Winnataska
May 27-29 — Southeast Churchmen's Fellowship Retreat, Cheaha State Park, Anniston, Alabama
June 10 — Kentucky-Tennessee Women's Fellowship Retreat
July 15-16 — Georgia-South Carolina Women's Fellowship Retreat
July 18-22 — Southern Social Action Institute, Blue Ridge Assembly
July 22-23 — Alabama-N. W. Florida Women's Fellowship Retreat
August 11-14 — Leadership Growth Workshop, Southern Union College
August 14-18 — Leadership Growth Workshop, Pine Mountain, Ga.
August 19-21 — Leadership Growth Workshop, Chattanooga, Tenn.

DATES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

June 5-11 — Ky.-Tenn. Summer Conference
June 17-25 — Nat'l. PF-YF, Elmhurst
June 19 - July 3 — Work Camp at Bricks
July 3-16 — Work Camp at Southern Union
July 31-August 6 — Ala.-N. W. Florida Summer Conference
August 14-20 — Georgia-South Carolina Summer Conference

People . . . Churches . . . Events . . .



Rev. and Mrs. Brown and Family

Former Overseas Workers Now Living In Atlanta

Reverend and Mrs. Edward M. Brown and children recently moved to Atlanta, Georgia, where Mr. Brown will take up his duties with the Board of Home Missions and the Council for Social Action.

After spending four years at Pont-de-Roide, Doubs, France, as fraternal workers with the World Council of Churches under the sponsorship of the Congregational Christian Service Committee, the Browns returned to this country last year.

Mr. Brown is available to work with Congregational Christian Churches and members in the general area of the southeast in matters relating to race relations. He will be engaged in work similar to that which has been carried on by Miss Dorothy Hampton in North Carolina and Virginia among our Congregational Christian Churches for the past four years.

A native of Shreveport, La., (both of his parents are native Georgians), Mr. Brown is a graduate of Duke University (1941) and of Yale Divinity School (1944).

After serving with the American Missionary Association at Nashville, Tenn., he became Associate Executive Secretary of the Student Christian Association of the University of Texas. From 1948 to 1955 he was minister of the Congregational Christian Church, Carrier, Oklahoma.

Mr. Brown's office is at 41 Exchange Place, Atlanta 3, Ga. He will be visiting the Congregational Christian ministers of the area in the months ahead and will be happy to receive invitations to visit churches and church groups. He will sponsor cooperative

Todd Church Reports Variety Of Activities

Sunday night, February 21, the choir of the Lanett Congregational Christian Church, under the capable direction of Mr. Willie McGill and Miss Frances Schofield, presented a song service at Todd Church. The program consisted of duets, male quartet, and a mixed choir.

Todd Church wishes to extend congratulations to Miss Peggy Hammock on her recent election as Miss Southern Union. Peggy has been active in our church since it was organized, and was church pianist for three years prior to entering Southern Union College.

Saturday, February 27, was set aside as car-wash day by our young people. While washing cars they also sold hot coffee to those who brought their cars to be washed. The proceeds will be used toward paying their expenses to the PF Conference at Chattanooga, Tenn.

We have received four new members into our church this year. They were Mr. and Mrs. Odel Oliver and Mr. and Mrs. Warner Richardson. Also, the church is showing marked progress in every department.

We had twelve from our church to attend the Laymen's and Wives night at Southern Union. They all reported they enjoyed the program.

Mrs. Arnold Wallace

N - O - T - I - C - E

Dr. May C. Wharton's own story, DOCTOR WOMAN OF THE CUMBERLANDS, may be ordered from:

UPLANDS

Pleasant Hill, Tennessee

Cost: \$3.00 per copy, postpaid.

This is the exciting story of Dr. Wharton's career at Pleasant Hill.

activities between churches and members of the Convention of the South and the Southeast Convention for those who care to participate.

In 1941 Mr. Brown married Miss Freda Dick, of Shreveport, La. They have three children: Martin (14), Maria (6), and Paul (5). All of the children speak French and when the family returned to the States the two younger children had to begin to learn English.

The Browns live at 826 Hillpine Drive, Atlanta 6, Ga.

South Georgia District Young People's Banquet

Approximately 50 young people from six churches attended the first banquet ever held by the Pilgrim Fellowship of the South Georgia District on Saturday February 13, at 8:00 p. m. in the Atkinson County High School cafetorium.

The banquet was formal, with the Valentine theme carried out in both decorations and food. Boyd James of Union Hill Church, Pearson, and president of the Fellowship, presided at the banquet and gave the welcome address.

A program of interest was presented by the group from Williams Chapel, Waycross, under the direction of Rev. Robert Hendrix, Youth Fellowship Advisor.

Hostesses were the ladies of the Women's Fellowship of Union Hill Church.

HERE AND THERE

The Consecration Service for the new church building of Pilgrim Congregational Church, Birmingham, Ala., was held on Sunday, March 6.

* * * *

The North Alabama Churchmen's Fellowship met at St. John's United Church, Cullman, Ala., on February 22.

* * * *

Rev. Arnold Slater, President, and Supt. James H. Lightbourne Jr. attended a meeting of the Southeast Regional Meeting Committee in Raleigh, N. C., on March 1st.

* * * *

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The Southeast Convention Area Churchmen's Fellowship Retreat will be held May 27-29, 1960, at Cheaha State Park, near Anniston, Ala. Dr. Kenneth Kohler, Executive Secretary of the E & R Churchmen's Brotherhood; Dr. Walter A. Graham, President of Southern Union College; and Supt. Lightbourne will be the leaders. The total cost for the full period will be \$16.00.

Send your registration to President W. P. Ingram, Box 703, Birmingham 1.

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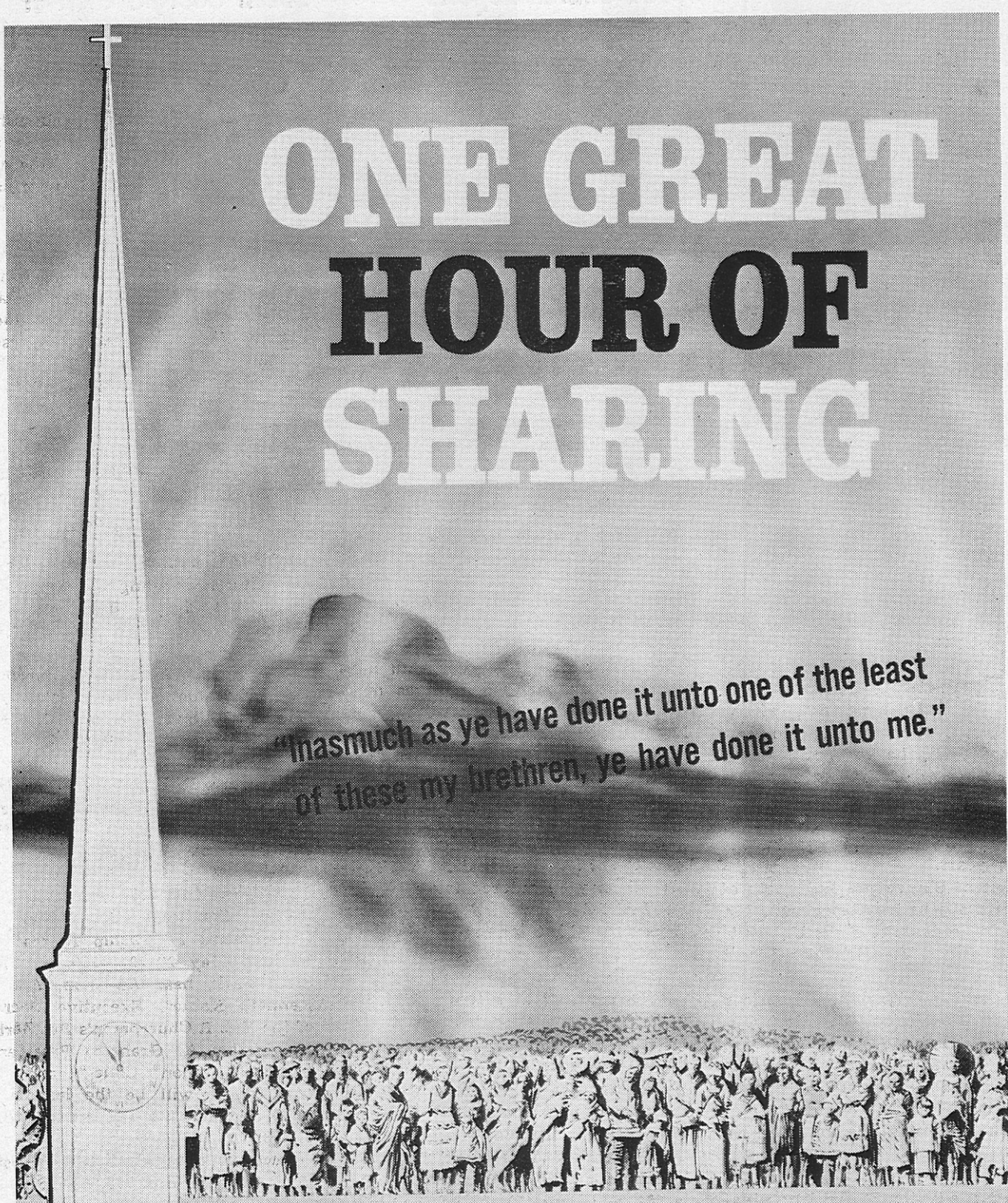
Rev. and Mrs. Samuel D. Nelson Jr., formerly of the Barnesville, Ga., Congregational Christian Church, announce the birth of Samuel D. Nelson III in February.

THE SOUTHEAST NEWS
673 Piedmont Avenue, N. E.
Atlanta 8, Georgia

Entered as Second Class

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

*"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least
of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."*



CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN SERVICE COMMITTEE